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WHA/CEN
EB FOR WCRAFT, BLAMPRON, JSHANNON
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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [KSCA](#) [PREL](#) [SOCI](#) [TBIO](#) [CS](#)

SUBJECT: COSTA RICA: INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP ON AVIAN AND
PANDEMIC INFLUENZA

REF: SECSTATE 164134

Econoff, ESTH Officer, and Agricultural Attache shared talking points with representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Health, and Agriculture. Econoff corresponded with Edwin Arias, Deputy Director for Foreign Policy in the Costa Rican Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), who will be coordinating the dissemination of information within the GOCR and the GOCR response to this issue. ESTH Officer also talked to Maricela Cubero, Advisor to the Health Minister, about this issue. She stated that her Ministry will work with MFA on the response. This issue is pertinent to Costa Rica because of the relatively large poultry industry. The GOCR is interested in taking steps to ensure avian flu does not affect this industry or pose a threat to humans. However, the MFA was not prepared to provide specific feedback at this time. Post will follow up with Arias and report GOCR comments and positions.
FRISBIE